

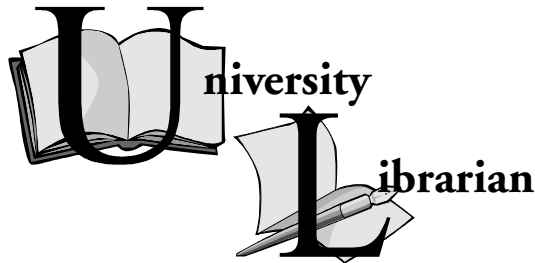


# staff news

Issue 69

November 5, 2001

From the



## Report on ARL

Last month I attended the twice-yearly meeting of the Association of Research Libraries, this time in Washington, D.C. (Aside from hearing that the Library of Congress was closed to visitors, I had no unusual experiences there in spite of the news we began seeing on TV.) Each of ARL's 122 directors of libraries serves on one of the ten committees; I am on the Preservation of Research Materials Committee, ably chaired by Nancy Gwinn of the Smithsonian Libraries.

The Preservation Committee is trying to keep the importance of preservation visible to our own ARL membership in a time when directors' attentions are drawn to digital issues, distance learning, the journals crisis and collections shortfalls. Last year we developed an Action Agenda which includes raising awareness about preservation within ARL and with other agencies; finding ways to bring ARL preservation practitioners together; and organizing a conference on preservation next spring in Ann Arbor (for a copy of the action plan or other ARL materials, please contact me or Terry Belzak).

Deanna Marcum of the Council on Library and Information Resources reported on planning, with LC, for their \$100,000,000 digital archive. A great number of players in digital texts, sound and video are being brought together to determine needs and capabilities. Congress has mandated cooperative activities, so OCLC, RLG, the Digital Libraries Federation and others will be involved as well.

I observed the Information Policies Committee's work as well, where Prue Adler of ARL reported on the very changed political landscape. The anti-terrorism bill was then actively being legislated, and it has since been signed into law. It is likely to change the ways we preserve user privacy; I've distributed some materials on this to Cabinet. A variety of government agencies have been deleting web pages and even whole sites in the wake of

the 9/11 attack, and we hear of some agencies asking for their publications back from depository libraries. At least one agency has required the destruction of a distributed depository CD-ROM. ARL will be working with ALA and other library organizations to prepare guidelines for library responses to such requests.

In plenary sessions we heard about further developments in "E-metrics" — that is, ways of measuring the use of library electronic resources. There were breakout sessions on learning outcomes, on managing digital library programs, on special collections, and on library education accreditation. A session I organized was on the configuration of senior library positions for technology; several institutions, including our own, have had difficulty filling such positions, and it seemed time to talk about how technology should fit in our organizations. Gerry Munoff of UC Irvine and I chaired the session; we expected half a dozen people, but 32 directors came, indicating we'd touched a nerve. One finding: half the people there organized their senior technology position as staff (with few or no reporting lines), and half as line (with significant staff and departments). Different models work.

I'll be glad to answer questions or report further on these meetings to you or your department. The next ARL meeting will be in Santa Monica in May, 2002.

*Peter Graham, University Librarian*

## Peer to Peer Dialog Focuses on One-Book-For-All Programs

The fourth gathering of the Peer to Peer Library Dialog will take place on Wednesday, November 7 at 12:30 pm in the 1916 Room. Refreshments will be provided; however, plan to bring a brown bag lunch or snack. Heidi Holtz, Director of Communications and Special Events at Syracuse Stage will be the guest facilitator.

The topic for discussion is a concept that is currently sweeping the nation. "One City One Book" is a citywide reading initiative. Three suggested articles for review are available at the Reserves Desk and are also available in various formats through Media Services. When using SUMMIT Course Reserves, be sure to search under LBR 100: Peer to Peer Discussion Group.

Please join the group for the camaraderie, to actively listen and advocate for the issues, or just to have fun.

## In Brief

... news about our staff



Effective November 1, 2001, **Pat Bench** transferred from Database Management to begin her new appointment as Monographs Cataloging Supervisor. We extend our congratulations to Pat and thank the search committee for bringing this search to a successful conclusion.

**Pamela Thomas**, Digital Initiatives Librarian, would like everyone to know that her new office is located in 555 ES Bird. She can be reached at x1482.

Our sincere condolences are extended to **Elizabeth Wallace** whose mother, Betty, died over the weekend. Services for Mrs. Wallace were held in Toronto. The family did not specify where to send donations.

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## Food for Fines

The Libraries at SU are pleased to announce the start of a fine amnesty program dubbed *Food for Fines*. ES Bird, Science & Technology, Geology, Math and the Physics Libraries will be participating in this program which is modeled after a successful SUNY ESF Moon Library program.

Each semester a date will be designated as *Food for Fines* day, offering patrons an option for reducing or eliminating fines owed to the Libraries. The fall semester date is Wednesday, December 5, during the normal hours of operation. The spring semester date will be announced in 2002 and Library users should be advised to watch for flyers and news releases announcing the date.

For each canned or non-perishable food item donated by a patron \$1.00 in overdue fines will be forgiven. There is no limit on the number of items a patron may donate, but only fines associated with overdue fees will be forgiven. Costs incurred for lost items and accompanying processing fees will not be included in the *Food for Fines* program. All donated items will be given to a local food pantry for distribution to families and individuals in need.

If you have any questions, please contact the Science and Technology Library at 443-2160.

*Bevan Angier, Science and Technology Library*

## Bake and Create for the United Way

The Syracuse University Library will participate in the United Way Bake Sale again this year. The date is November 6. We will set up on the tables in the extended study area, just outside the 1916 Room. The new United Way cookbooks will also be for sale at that time. We have the best cooks in town, so please join in and bake if you can.

The United Way auction will be held in the 1916 Room on November 14. If you have your own art or some white elephants, please consider contributing to our auction. Please bring in your donations when we set up on November 13 from 2 until 5 pm. We have a very talented staff, and some people have already prepared some beautiful things for the sale. Get out your tools and see what you can do.

*Dorcas MacDonald, Interlibrary Loan*

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## Parents Weekend Success

On Friday, October 19, the Library hosted a "pick-me-up" for parents visiting for Parents Weekend. From 3:00 pm until 4:30 pm several members of the Library staff were on hand in the first-floor study area to greet parents and chat with them about the Library while they refreshed themselves with light snacks and beverages. About 30 parents stopped by, and at least 10 of them took time for a guided tour or an introduction to our digital resources. Others preferred to explore the Library without a guide, but stopped by to snack and chat. The most challenging part of the afternoon was holding off the hungry students studying in the area to be sure there would be food for the parents. Needless to say, they heartily enjoyed the leftovers!

This event was a bit of a departure from our previous Parents Weekend efforts when we only offered Library tours. The number of parents who visited us is a dramatic increase from previous years, and those who stopped by seemed greatly appreciative of the chance to grab a quick snack, and see the place where their children claim to spend most of their free time!

Many thanks to the volunteers who helped out: Barbara Opar (Fine Arts), Donna Sullivan (Reference), Marie Swearingen (Reserves), Uma Sharma (Reference), and Nancy Pitre (Reference). Also, many thanks to Pam Thomas, Charlie Russo, Richard Coombs, and the Copy Services crew for their assistance with signs for the event.

*Lisa Moeckel, Research and Information Services Division*

## Upcoming Satellite Seminar Series

The Museum of Television & Radio in New York City will present a three-part series, *Television & the African-American Experience: Civil Rights & Beyond*, that examines how television has covered and reflected black history and culture over the past fifty years.

The Leonard H. Goldenson University Satellite Seminar Series will give leading scholars, authors, journalists, producers, writers, and actors the opportunity for an open discussion of important issues relating to African-Americans and the media. The series is sent via satellite to universities and colleges across the country and include live question-and-answer sessions between panelists and the off-site audience. Each session will be held from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. in the 1916 Room in ES Bird Library.

### **Wed. November 7:** *On the Front Lines: Television and African-American Issues*

The civil rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s was "the first running story of national importance that television fully covered," according to journalist Peter J. Boyer. From the 1970s on, racial issues, complicated by a diversity of African-American viewpoints, became more complex for television to cover. As scholar Herman Gray noted, the "traditionally liberal civil rights visions of political activism and social change faced increasing competition from black conservatives, black feminists, black neonationalists." Panelists will explore issues since the 1950s and 1960s and how television news has interpreted such divisive events as the Rodney King verdict and the confirmation of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas.

### **Wed. November 14:** *Images of African-Americans on Prime-Time Television*

The panel will discuss the social, political, and historical

influences that have shaped depictions of African-American life, from the outrageous stereotypes of *Amos 'n' Andy* in the postwar era to the phenomenal success of *The Cosby Show* in the 1980s and the trend in recent years of burgeoning networks concentrating on African-American-themed programming.

### **Thurs. November 15:** *Bebopping, Hip-Hopping, & Slam-Dunking: The Influence of African-American Endeavors in Music and Sports on Mainstream Culture*

In the past five decades, African-American achievements in sports and the arts have significantly shaped mainstream American Culture. This seminar will discuss the ways in which television has captured and affected the evolution of jazz and blues; the influence of hip-hop and rap culture on fashion and pop music; and the complex social roles of such black sports figures as Jackie Robinson, Muhammad Ali, and Michael Jackson.

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## Poinsettia Sale Benefits Scholarship Fund

The Women of the University Community will once again sponsor a poinsettia sale to benefit the Mildred Eggers and Ruth Tolley Scholarship Funds. Florist grade plants are available in red, white, pink, and marble and range in price from \$7.50 (6-inch container) to \$14.50 (10-inch hanger). The deadline for orders is November 21. Send a completed order form, available from Carol Cavalluzzi, with payment to Carol at 300 Heroy Laboratory. Plants can be picked up on Friday, November 30 from 9 am to 5 pm at Drumlins. Personal orders will be accepted.



A Quiet Night in Media Services ...

Photo by George Abbott

# Standing Room Only for Reference Department Open House

Reference Department staff members held an open house on October 29 to acquaint the rest of the SUL staff with people new to their department. The photos below attest to the success of the event. Many joined them to help make the mountains of doughnuts, fruit, juice, and coffee disappear.



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Please send material for the next *Staff News* by Thurs., Nov. 15, 2001 to the editor at 219 E.S. Bird Library.

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